



HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE

*****JUST THE FACTS*****

HOUSE REPUBLICANS STILL OWE FLORIDIANS A \$13-BILLION ANSWER

WHEN WILL REPUBLICANS PLEDGE TO ACCEPT FLORIDA'S FAIR SHARE OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUNDS?

With Florida's most recent unemployment rate at 8.6 percent and more than 800,000 Floridians without a job, Florida House Republican leaders are still failing to provide solutions to what matters to Floridians---jobs and economic recovery.

Rather, some House Republican leaders are spending Tuesday railing against visitors to the Florida Capitol and promoting their union-busting tactics. This is not what Floridians deserve.

Meanwhile, in a bipartisan move last week, Republican Governor Charlie Crist boldly joined Florida House Democrats in calling for using federal economic recovery monies to stimulate the Florida economy. Unfortunately, Florida House Republican leaders are still wavering in their support of putting people to work with all the available resources to the state.

"We shouldn't miss an opportunity to put Floridians back to work, and that means making it clear that the economic recovery dollars can be put to rapid use," House Democratic Leader Franklin Sands said today.

"Florida can dodge deeper cuts to education, welfare, health care and other social programs by injecting billions from the federal economic stimulus package into the state budget during the next 16 months," Sands added.

"It's time for our Republican colleagues to follow the guidance of House Democrats and Governor Crist and concentrate on the troubles that ail Florida, including high unemployment, home foreclosures, public school needs, and too many uninsured Floridians," said Sands.

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